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# NUMBERS & ODDITIES #
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-::: N&O #11 :::-

As I told you last month, I have very little time for the hobby these days. The same goes for Jascha and Chris. Hence, a very short N&O this month and no logs section. Please, feel free to send us your info and other contributions. You may remain anonymous if you wish, just let me know. As requested you will find a the Roman and Cyrillic morse alphabets in this issue.

* ENIGMA CONTROL LIST *

Additions and corrections to the ENIGMA control list.

New designators:

M77 P7X (see N&O #5 for a station profile)
 S07c 4fig, non-random (belongs to family Ib)
 S30 the pip

Delete:

XT the pip
 M40a is the same as M40

-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-

* MORSE & RTTY STATIONS *

::: FAPSI

Rich Knowles <sgtk@cris.com> is one of WUNners who followed FAPSI for many years and shares a few of his early logs with us. Thanks Rich!

'For those of you who are into following the FAPSI activity, here are a couple bits of information I can add to the common knowledge.

I have followed this activity for a number of years off and on. I just read the excellent piece on the roots of the FAPSI in a past newsletter and I agree with the assumptions taken as to the origin of this activity. I can add a little bit as well.

My first notes on this go back to 1985 where I monitored KAC, YBU,

JMS and the crowd of other links as they cranked out page after page of 5 figure letter or number messages. I was very interested in their organized operation, which caused me to follow them closely for several subsequent years.

At around that same time I was also monitoring some activity on 7525 nightly at 0200Z. A station called LCU would come up calling. Then would send NIL CFM SK and that would be it. I followed this activity for several months. Then one day LCU QSY'ed the other station with an open QSY and lo and behold, at the new frequency I heard "KNY31" calling. A quick check of the one of the Callsign listings and apparently KNY31 is a call which was assigned to the Russian embassy in NY.

Also at around that same time I noted some other activity on 7525 which would commence around 0145 to 0200Z. It sounded like LCU but this time it was calling COY851. Again I monitored it for a while and one day, during a QSY I heard the other station, this time its call was TR0.

I still hadn't made the connections yet until in July of 1986 I copied COY851 saying to TR0:

QSL 10/07

11177	910	694	7575	1246
11177	0116	149	3861	1249
11177	201	172	-missed-	
11177	994	224	5416	1323

NIL

So this was a real breakthrough!

Sometime in 1987 LCU and COY851 stopped using the 7525 frequency and I never was able to find them again.

Now, more recent news.

On 11/4 at 0230 I found a station at 7944 sending U1K - I thought, hmm, this is interesting. I monitored him for a while and he sent the usual QSA report to the other station. It sounded as if he was correcting a message or receiving one. He then QSL'ed the message, switched to 100bd/425 FSK and started sending RY's.

He then went into traffic and sent a single 150 group letter message in the FAPSI style with a preamble of:

11100 00103 00000 07002 01519

FQNHM ODCYN UOALA SNUYR ZBFAQ FFJTP EVCMR OXETN UWMLH

(Notice the last group is not the usual group length encryption!)

This piqued my interest. He sent the "NIL SK CFM SK" much the same as LCU of the past. He however didn't drop the FSK carrier and a few minutes later he began to call U1K again. This time he announced QTC 2. He sent the same 150 group letter message and then a 150 group number message:

11100 00103 00000 07001 01519

26966 52632 39642 43516 76620 49756 29340 33702 97207 07656

So for my money, I'd say that this is either LCU and company or a similar type of operation. I haven't seen any references to the link indicator elsewhere so it is either a new (previously unheard) or I've misidentified it :)

Hope this helps the cause... Can anyone add to this?

Rich Knowles''

Thanks for the interesting notes, Rich. Except for RCF in Moscow -which may even be a tactical callsign-, I had never seen a real call sign before. So the KNY31 callsign was a big surprise for me. It was also the first time that I saw callsign LCU.

Then the others; also interesting stuff because they all seem to use the same link id: 00103. COY851 has been linked to YFC for quite a while on 00103. You have copied them when they worked TRO using the same link. Your recent log of U1K -again on 00103- is even more interesting because this is most probably still COY851 now working yet another station on the same link. The question is are TRO, YFC and U1K all the same station, or are these three different stations?

The following intercepts were made during mid December till mid February.

Frequency	UTC	to	link
-----	----	---	-----
9216	0050	GMN	00119
10584	1420	KUL	00142
11637	0045	GMN	00119
12167	1300	NOB	70004
12183.4	1653		20043 (tent)
12193	1410	KUL	00142
12239	1310		00030

13452	2235 JMS	00127
13552	1250	30088
13556	2007 HZW	00117
13850	1320	00852 (? 3rd digit)
14502	1330	70004
14711	1320	70004
14731	1505 BPA	00116
14843	2230 JMS	00127
14941	1810 WNY	00139
16218	2000 HZW	00117
17421.5	1545	50035
17460	0930	10075
18169	1720	00168 (*)
18247	0930	10075
19088	1800 WNY	00139
20938	0930	30088

(*) John copied the following announcement of a new SPK sked recently

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SPK SPK SPK TIKAS  SPK SPK SPK TIKAS  SPK SPK SPK TIKAS
RYRYRYRYRYRYRYRYRYRYRYRYRYRYRYRYRYRYRYRYRYRYRYR
FM 00.00 [garble] QPP WRK NO
WRK QAA 1
WRK QSO 11.00 QSW 12101/14532
WRK QSO 17.00 QSW 20741/18048
OM PSE GA QSL QPP
QRU SK

```

John sez ''Sorry I didn't get the date on which these freqs are to start - the signal faded just at the crucial moment. This was on 18169 kHz at 1720 GMT Saturday. (The message was sent twice, and, would you believe it, the signal faded at the same point each time, just after the "00.00" - Murphy's Law, I suppose.)

::: DPQT / VLDR - CZECH MILITARY

o General

One of the most remarkable Czech military stations is DPQT. This call sign is on the air for more than three years in a row. The station works with a number of other stations, amongst them other long time friends like HC8W, P6TM, and M5RT. As long as DPQT is on the air, the others were there too. DPQT's sister station is VLDR, another one that popped up around the same time as DPQT did.

Although I have no written confirmation that these stations are PfP related, it sure looks like it. Both DPQT and VLDR arrived on the scene at the end of 1995 or early 1996, just after the Partnership for Peace had come into force. Both use CET (central European

time).

o Mode: CW

o Callsigns and locations

Callsigns control stations: DPQT, VLDR

Other stations on these nets include HC8W, P6TM, M5RT and N2QG.

These callsigns have been copied since the first appearance of DPQT/VLDR. Many other callsigns were copied only once or twice. Note that only the two net control stations use 4-letter calls, while the others have 3-letter + 1-figure callsigns.

VLDR and DPQT are both located in Prague, while M5RT transmits from near Milovice.

o Frequencies: so far always 3, 4 and lower 5 MHz

DPQT:	2616	2665	3737	3848	3876	3935	3953	3972
	4465	4478	4889	4938	4978	5000	5009	5182
	5258 kHz							

VLDR:	2506	2508	2785	3169	3214	3398	3951	4004
	4025	4443	4511	4562	4751	4787	5226	kHz

o Messages

M5RT DE DPQT QTC 744

M5RT DE DPQT QTC 58 20 30 1727 = 744 M5RT = 5FG = DPQT

Note the date and time mentioned in the message. It was transmitted on 1628 UTC on 30 Oct. The date/time group is ''30 1727'' which is CET.

Each transmission starts with a callup:

HC8W DE DPQT QTC 744

Because the '744' group appears in each message, I think that it is some sort of code for that particular day. It is not the group count, that's for sure. After the callup the actual message begins:

HC8W DE DPQT QTC 63 20 30 1513 = 744 HC8W = 5LG = DPQT

'QTC 63 20' means a message of 63 groups. Just like the '744' group, '20' also came back all day long and could be a key for that day. The message itself always consists of 5-letter or 5-figure groups.

DPQT and VLDR do not send blind messages. After each message the recipient has to QSL the message what often results in confirmation traffic like:

HC8W R 52 K <request to repeat group 52>

or

HC8W RPT GR AA 4 K <request to repeat All After group 4>

Another type of message that you can find is the one that is sent by the control stations DPQT and VLDR. These messages can best be compared with the USAF's EAMs or Skyking messages. They look like this:

XXX KAZETA 570 KAZETA 570 K 5C7W KAZETA 570 K

-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-

★ N&O ROUND-UP ★

::: UNIDS

#1) Lars Lindh copied an unid station. I have no idea who or what it is. It could be a pulse jammer but also an over-the-horizon-radar. Lars copied the transmission on 10948 kHz. I have a sound sample available for those who want to hear it.

#2) Another unid station transmitted on 14294 kHz. This one sounds like an interval signal from a broadcaster, namely the chirping of a bird. I also have a wav available of this signal.

#3) Geoff Halligey also supplied an unid station log. He captured the following on 6382 kHz: PAQ PAQ PAQ Y_ ?5Y_?5Y_?5 3 ?5== == == This was the full message, auto repeated over and over, in CW, QSA3, around midnight 2/3 January and at 1500 UTC on 3 January.

Geoff sez: ''At midnight 3/4 January he'd gone, but on this freq. (6382) was now TBA6 with his usual routine calling TBDJ on CW, but a different, more powerful, tx. Yet on the two previous nights, when PAQ was on the air, TBA6 was not. Coincidence?''

Info about the above mentioned stations is most welcome.

::: BLETCHLEY PARK

Bletchly Park Trust has now also an official home page at:

<http://www.bletchleypark.org.uk/>

Some browsers may have difficulties finding the Bletchley Park website that I mentioned last month because of the upper case characters. If so, try this instead: <http://www.cranfield.ac.uk/cc/bpark/>

-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-

★ VOICE STATIONS ★

Oblique [E11], Strich [G11], Presta [S11]
by Simon Mason (from his book Secret Signals)

The STRICH. This station may be the most pointless waste of time in the history of radio. Quite a claim, but when one considers the mind-numbing banality of these transmissions it would be difficult to think of other candidates for such an award. The station, like many others, is multilingual - in this case, Russian, English and German.

When I first heard the German version I couldn't believe my ears! The woman used has an impossibly high pitched voice, almost like the yapping of a small dog. The voice was repeating "acht, acht, drie, strich, zero, zero" The word "strich" is German for the / stroke sign. After five minutes the voice stopped. No traffic followed and in the years since then no traffic has ever been heard, just s women repeating 883/00 for five minutes and then off the air. Later on, more German stations appeared - 317/00, 117/00, 897/00, 493/00, all with the same format. No traffic was ever sent. Then an English version using the same female voice popped up. This time the voice repeated Two eight eight oblique zero zero and left the air after five minutes. Then a Morse code (CW) version appeared repeating 971/00. Again, no traffic was sent. Then on 4370 kHz one Wednesday evening at 2300 the familiar woman's voice was repeating something like "jezinta, osem, sedni, presta, dvonta, sedm" (or 187/27). And, miracle of miracles, 27 five figure groups were sent. The language was hard to determine but it seem to be a form of Russian specially adapted for radio (akin to English operators saying "fower" (4) and niner (9). The 1 to 0 figures seemed to break down as:

- 0 zero
- 1 jezinta
- 2 dvonta
- 3 trunta
- 4 czdiri
- 5 peyonta
- 6 sesh
- 7 sedm
- 8 osem
- 9 prunka

This was the only time that I heard traffic being passed, in any language. A mistake in one of these transmissions was noted on 4015 at 2100. The German voice was repeating "75-100". The third digit was obscured by a sound like some-one keying a mike over that figure. After three minutes the fault was noticed and the voice then said "751/00" until five past the hour when, of course, it went off the air. A Russian broadcast similar to the previous station and using altered

numbers was noticed one night at 0000. An unfamiliar voice was heard on 7537 - a woman repeating "Edna, sednitzer, nula" very, very slowly. At 0005 the voice said "Norm 162, Gruppi 22" and then sent 22 five figure groups, ending with "nula, nula, nula". The number breakdown seemed to be:

```

0  nula
1  edna
2  dvoytze
3  tri
4  chetryi
5  pedartze
6  sest
7  sednitzer
8  asem
9  devet

```

Again, this was either enhanced Russian or another Slavic language. Early the next morning I continued the hunt. On 10180 kHz I noticed exactly the same voice I'd heard a few hours earlier, repeating the same numbers. Again, the transmission ended with "0,0,0". Since then the same station has been noted on 5580 at 2230, 6750 at 2200 and 5668 at 1930. The format has remained the same; e.g. repeating "121" for five minutes, then "norma 69, gruppi 13" and always ending with "000".

The stations were noted on:

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2805  3225  3247  3823  4006  4015  4030  4090  4370  4540
4723  4780  4882  5050  5090  5157  5247  5445  5500  5624
5830  5860  6430  7740  7840 khz

```

-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-

★ MORSE CODE ★

Letters

A . _	B _ . . .	C _ . _ .	D _ . .
E .	F . . _ .	G _ _ .	H
I . .	J . _ _ _	K _ . _	L . _ . .
M _ _	N _ .	O _ _ _	P . _ _ .
Q _ _ . _	R . _ .	S . . .	T _
U . . _	V . . . _	W . _ _	X _ . . _
Y _ . _ _	Z _ _ . .		

Numbers

1 . - - - -	6 -
2 . . - - -	7 - - . . .
3 . . . - -	8 - - - . .
4 -	9 - - - - .
5	0 - - - - -

Some stations use 'cut numbers' in CW transmissions. Six variations have been noted so far.

The most popular is the one where only the zero is a cut number: 'T'

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 T

M8 and perhaps also other stations use the following variation:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0
A N D U W R I G M T

The QWERTY variation: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0

Q W E R T Y U I O P

Several numbers stations use the marked variant of this group. The others have been noted in military and maritime communications:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0
A U 3 4 5 6 7 D N T
-> A U V 4 E 6 B D N T
A U V 4 5 6 B D N T

Special characters

End of message	. - . - .	[+ AR]
Wait sign	. _ . . .	[AS]
Separation mark	- . . . -	[= BT]
Start sign	- . - . -	[> CT]
Break	. - - . . .	[AB]
End of transmission	. . . - . -	[* VA/SK]
Go ahead	- . -	[K]
Well received	. - .	[R]
Message understood	. . . - .	[VE]

Punctuation

Comma	- _ . . - _	[, MIM]
Period	. _ . _ . _	[. AAA]
Semicolon	- . _ . _ .	[; KR]
Colon	- _ - . . .	[: OS]
Question mark	. . _ _ . .	[? IMI]
Parentheses	- . _ _ . _	[() KK]
Apostrophe	. _ - - - .	[' WG]
Quotation marks	. _ . . _ .	[" AF]
Hyphen	- -	[- DU]
Fraction bar	- . . _ .	[/ DN]
Error	

Cyrillic alphabet

As I cannot write down the Cyrillic letters in their original form, I used the Roman letters instead, followed by the morse character.

a	. -	be	- . . .
ve	. - -	ge	- - .
de	- . .	ye / yo	.
zhe	. . . -	ze	- - . .
i	. .	j	. - - -
ka	- . -	el	. - . .
em	- -	en	- .
o	- - -	pe	. - - .
er	. - .	es	. . .
te	-	u	. . -
ef	. . - .	kha
tse	- . - .	che	- - - .
sha	- - - -	shcha	- - . -
hard sign	- . . -	y	- . - -
soft sign	- . . -	ae	. . - . .
yu	. . - -	ya	. - . -

<tnx for your help Dmitri!>

-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-

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-o-o-o-o-o-conet-o-o-o-o-